

of Kearney, the City of Scottsbluff; I have had communications from Mr. Koller out there and we would like to see this as a law in our state. I would urge all of you to take a real hard look at this and let's get it rolling. Thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Thank you. Senator Landis is next, and while he is returning to his microphone, may I please introduce some special guests of Senator Howard Lamb. Under the south balcony with Joe are his son, Dave Lamb, and his daughter-in-law Donnalee Lamb, and most importantly grandson, Jason Lamb. So would you please rise, and give them a welcome, please. It looks like Howard kind of likes that grandson. Senator Landis.

SENATOR LANDIS: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, I rise to explain the committee action. I have to frankly say that I was the fifth and reluctant vote in that I saw some merit in the proposal. However, I was persuaded by the arguments in the Executive Session by the committee that this bill attempts to create a commission that will have the ear of the Governor to advise him on new federalism. The difficulty of that is, while it is a noble and lofty purposed idea, is that if the Governor doesn't want to listen, if the Governor is not in the mood to take advice, you can't create it by law. When you try to create intergovernmental cooperation, you can't impose it by one house of the government. The whole result, the whole end result of communication in this bill is to advise the Governor. Now if the Governor doesn't want to take advice, he is not going to take advice. And if he does want the advice of local governments, there is no reason why he can't create an advisory commission to do that, an advisory commission that might not necessarily have the same fifty thousand dollar price tag that this bill has. Now I am not...I may be wrong in that, Senator Newell now has instructed me that it is five thousand, not fifty thousand, let me make sure that that is accurate. It just seems to me that there is plenty of authority in the Executive Branch to create a mechanism if the Governor wants to take the poll and the pulse of local governments as to what he should do in response to the new federalism that he can do so. We don't need another commission to create a formal mechanism for communications when the real key to the effectiveness of those communications is the willingness of the Governor to listen, and if the Governor is willing then that job can be done without a formal commission. Let me suggest to you that the experience of the last year in which I had dealings with an Executive's Commission of Intergovernmental Cooperation, tells me that